

Definitions of Levels of Supervision

Direct Supervision: This means the supervising physician is actually in sight of the physician assistant when the physician assistant is performing the function requiring direct supervision. Although the physician may be performing some other task at the time, the supervising physician may immediately provide direction or assume the performance of the task if difficulties arise. This does not require that the physician is watching “over the shoulder” of the physician assistant as would be required during the training period to ensure that the physician assistant is competent to perform the task.

On-site supervision: Requires the physical presence of the supervising physician in the same location (i.e. the physician’s office suite) as the physician assistant, but does not require the physical presence in the same room.

Off-site supervision: The supervising physician must be continuously available for direct communication with the physician assistant and must be in a location that, under normal conditions, is not more than 30 minutes travel time from the physician assistant’s location.

*The Board has adopted as policy that a physician assistant be required to have two continuous years of experience before the Board approves off-site supervision. Direct or on-site supervision will be required at all times during a physician assistant’s first two years of practice unless a waiver has been requested by a supervising physician and approved by the Board. A primary or alternate supervising physician will have to be, at a minimum, on-site during a physician assistant’s work shift during this two-year period.